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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/816,348	03/26/2001	Masaharu Tomiyama	Q63433	6359

7590

08/21/2002

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EXAMINER

LE, DANG D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 08/21/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/816,348

Applicant(s)

TOMIYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Dang D Le

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 June 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 and 6-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4 and 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Moribayashi et al.

Regarding claim 1, Moribayashi et al. show a motor (Figures 19, 31 and 32) for driving a blower fan (intended use) comprising:

- A cylindrical case body (41) having a front end opening portion and a rear end opening portion;
- A rear end plate (34/37) fixed on the rear end opening portion of the case body, the rear end plate having a first bearing;
- A front end plate (34/37) fixed on the front end opening portion of the case body, the front end plate having a second bearing;
- A rotary drive shaft (26) inserted into the central portion of the case body, the rotary drive shaft whose rear end portion is rotatably supported on the rear

end plate through the first bearing and whose forward middle portion is rotatably supported on the front end plate through the second bearing;

- A rotor (27) fixed on the middle portion of the rotary drive shaft;
- A stator (18) fixed on the inner circumferential surface of the case body to face to the outer circumferential surface of the rotor; and
- A reinforcing portion provided in the vicinity of an end portion of the stator,
- Wherein the reinforcing ring (45) including a ring portion and a cylinder portion (41c) extending from an outer peripheral edge of the ring portion.

Regarding claim 2, it is noted that Moribayashi et al. also show the reinforcing portion (45) being integrally formed with the case body (41).

Regarding claim 3, it is noted that Moribayashi et al. also show the reinforcing portion reinforcing a portion of the case body fixing the stator not to be deformed.

Regarding claim 4, it is noted that Moribayashi et al. also show the ring portion being made of hard material (metal), and the ring portion being fixed on a part of the inner circumferential surface of the case body and formed into an annular shape as a whole.

Regarding claim 6, it is noted that Moribayashi et al. also show a length in the diametrical direction of the ring portion being no less than the thickness of the stator fixed on the inner circumferential surface of the case body (Figure 32).

Regarding claim 7, it is noted that Moribayashi et al. also show that before the ring portion is fixed, the outer circumferential surface of the cylinder portion has a conic

surface inclined in a direction such that a diameter increases large as a distance from the ring portion increases.

Regarding claim 8, it is noted that Moribayashi et al. also show the ring portion being fixed by press fitting on a part of the inner circumferential surface of the case body.

Regarding claim 9, it is noted that Moribayashi et al. also show an outer surface of the cylinder portion engaging with an inner circumferential surface of the case body.

Regarding claim 10, it is noted that Moribayashi et al. also show the reinforce portion being disposed in the case body so that the cylinder portion extends from the ring portion in a direction away from the stator, so that the ring portion is disposed between the cylinder portion and the stator (Figure 31).

Regarding claim 11, it is noted that Moribayashi et al. also show a motor (Figure 19) for driving a blower fan (intended use) comprising:

- A cylindrical case body (16) having a front end opening portion and a rear end opening portion;
- A rear end plate (34/37) fixed on the rear end opening portion of the case body, the rear end plate having a first bearing;
- A front end plate (34/37) fixed on the front end opening portion of the case body, the front end plate having a second bearing;
- A rotary drive shaft (26) inserted into the central portion of the case body, the rotary drive shaft whose rear end portion is rotatably supported on the rear

end plate through the first bearing and whose forward middle portion is rotatably supported on the front end plate through the second bearing;

- A rotor (27) fixed on the middle portion of the rotary drive shaft;
- A stator (18) fixed on the inner circumferential surface of the case body to face to the outer circumferential surface of the rotor; and
- A reinforcing portion provided in the vicinity of an end portion of the stator,
- Wherein the reinforcing portion (19) including bent portions (Figure 19) that are formed by end portions of the case body that are bent toward an inside thereof, intermittently around an inner circumferential surface thereof, wherein said bent portions have U-shape, and the stator is fixed at a portion of the inner circumferential surface of the case body which corresponds to a base portion of the U-shape.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Information on How to Contact USPTO

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dang D Le whose telephone number is (703) 305-0156. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7382 for regular communications and (703) 308-7382 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

DDL
August 15, 2002
nc

Dang D Le